

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for securing the head of a toothbrush in a processing machine, in particular tufting machine, having a retaining part (42) with a retaining flange (62), and having a supporting surface integrally formed on the retaining flange (62), the retaining flange (62) being intended for engaging between a plate-like bristle carrier (28), produced from a rigid plastic, and a retaining crosspiece (34) of the toothbrush head (12), the retaining crosspiece likewise being produced from a rigid plastic, and for supporting the bristle carrier (28) by way of the supporting surface (54).

2. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the retaining part (42) has a clamping surface (58) which preferably follows the supporting surface (54), runs transversely to the same and is intended for interacting with a peripheral lateral surface (60) of the bristle carrier (28).

3. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the clamping surface (58) - as seen in cross section - is of concave design in order to enclose the lateral surface (60).

4. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that the retaining flange (62) - as seen in cross section - tapers in the direction of its free end (70) and has a wall thickness of at least 1 mm.

5. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that, on its side which is directed away from the supporting surface (54), the retaining flange (62) has a further supporting surface (54), which is intended for interacting with the retaining crosspiece (34).

6. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, characterized in that the supporting surface (54) and, if appropriate, the clamping surface (58) and the further supporting surface (54), are formed to mate with the bristle carrier (28) and/or the retaining crosspiece (34).

7. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, characterized by two retaining parts (42) which can be moved relative to one another between a retaining position (44) and a receiving position (48).

8. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the retaining flanges (62) of the two retaining parts (42) are of mirror-symmetrical design.

9. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 7 ~~or 8~~, characterized in that the retaining flanges (62) are spaced apart from one another in the retaining position (44).